

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01003 111029Z

ACTION NEA-11

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FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6163

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGDAD 1003

DEPT PASS TO DEPT OF ENERGY - OTHER ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED

TO PASSS INFORMATION TO INTERESTED U.S. COMPANIES.

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, BEXP, IZ

SUBJ: DEVELOPMENT OF IRAQI SOLAR ENERGY

1. SUMMARY. IRAQS SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH UNIT (SERU)

PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A RESEARCH CENTER AND TO PURCHASE SOLAR  
POWERED EQUIPMENT FOR EXPERIEMTATION AND INVITES INQUIRIES  
FROM U.S. CONSULTING FIRMS AND SOLAR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS.

END SUMMARY.

2. IRAQI GOVERNMENT IN POST YEAR HAS TAEKN NEW INTEREST

IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR ENERGY, PARTICULARLY AS IT  
MIGHT BE USED TO MEET THE ENERGY REQUIREMENTS OF ISOLATED  
AREAS. THOUGH THE GOI HAS SPONSORED SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH  
SINCE 1966, IT HAS ONLY RECENTLY FORMED THE SOLAR ENERGY  
RESEARCH UNIT, WHICH NOW EMPLOYS SIX - EIGHT  
PROFESSIONAL STAFF BUT EXPECTS TO EXPAND GREATLY AS THE  
PROJECTS DESCRIBED BELOW PROGRESS.

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PAGE 02 BAGHDA 01003 111029Z

3. SOLAR RESEARCH CENTER. SERU HAS ALLOCATED  
FUNDS TO STUDY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOLAR RESEARCH  
CENTER. THOUGH SERU HOPES TO HAVE MUCH OF THE STUDY  
DONE LOCALLY, IT WILL NEED SOME FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND  
INVITES CORRESPONDENCE FROM FOREIGN CONSULTANTS. AS  
NOW ENVISIONED, THE RESEARCH CENTER WOULD BE HEATED

AND COOLED BY SOLAR ENERGY AND WOULD ENCOMPASS 3,000 SQUARE METERS HOUSING LABORATORIES FOR BASIC RESEARCH, THERMAL RESEARCH, MECHANICAL CONVERSION, AND ELECTRICAL CONVERSION, AS WELL AS ALLOCATING SPACE FOR AN EQUIPMENT TESTING SHOP, A GENERAL WORKSHOP, A CONFERENCE HALL, A LIBRARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND STORAGE AREAS.

4. INSTRUMENTS. SERU WISHES TO IMPORT SOLAR MEASURING INSTRUMENTS FOR USE IN REMOTE AREAS. IT PREFERS SOLAR POWERED UNITS WHICH AUTOMATICALLY REGISTER THE FOLLOWING RADIATION READINGS ON CASSETTES SUITABLE FOR COMPUTER ANALYSIS: DIRECT, DEFUSED, TOTAL, INFRA-RED, ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION AND OTHER COMPONENTS SUCH AS DUST.

5. SOLAR-POWERED PUMPS. SERU ALSO WISHES TO IMPORT TWO SOLAR-POWERED PUMPS, ONE FOR DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES HAVING A ONE KILOWATT CAPACITY AND THE SECOND FOR FIELD TRIALS HAVING A 3 KILOWATT CAPACITY. INTENDED FOR AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS, BOTH PUMPS SHOULD BE ABLE TO DRAW WATER FROM A DEPTH OF 50 METERS. SERU BELIEVES IF TRIALS ARE SUCCESSFUL, GOI WILL CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF SOLAR PUMPS ON A NATIONAL BASIS.

6. SOLAR VILLAGE AND WATER DISTILLATION EQUIPMENT. GOI SEEKS TO SETTLE NOMADIC BEDOUINS IN AREAS IN IRAQS WESTERN DESERT WHERE GROUND WATER RESERVES UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BAGHDA 01003 111029Z

HAVE BEEN FOUND. SERU WANTS TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A SOLAR VILLAGE USING SOLAR PUMPS AND SOLAR POWERED WATER DISTILLATION EQUIPMENT HAVING A CAPACITY OF 10,000 LITERS A DAY.

7. FILMS ON SOLAR ENERGY. SERU WOULD LIKE TO BUY FILMS IN ENGLISH OR ARABIC SHOWING POTENTIAL OF SOLAR ENERGY, PARTICULARLY PRACTICAL USES.

8. U.S. FIRSM INTERESTED IN TRADE OPPORTUNITIES DESCRIBED ABOVE SHOULD WRITE TO CHIEF, SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH UNIT, BUILDING RESEARCH CENTER, SCIEINTIFIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION, JADRIYAH, BAGHDAD, IRAQ, WITH A COPY TO USINT BAGHDAD FOR FOLLOW-UP.

9. FOR TEHRAN. DUE TO SHORT NOTICE, SERU OFFICIALS COULD NOT ATTEND SOLAR ENERGY EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR AT TEHRAN TRADE CENTER APRIL 30-MAY 2 BUT THEY WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE COPIES OF THE PAPERS PRESENTED. EMBASSY TEHRAN IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD THE THREE SETS TO USINT AND REQUEST EXHIBITORS TO FORWARD CATALOGUES DIRECTLY TO SERU.

10. COMMENT. DESPITE THE SMALL SIZE OF THESE POSSIBLE ORDERS, USINT BELIEVES THEY REPRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE U.S. TECHNOLOGY AT AN EARLY STATE OF IRAQI INTEREST IN SOLAR ENERGY. SO FAR GOI HAS MAINLY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FRENCH AND JAPANESE COMPANIES IN THIS FIELD.

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## Message Attributes

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